

the **P**ulse of Plattsburgh City Schools

May 2019 Issue

**Budget Vote
& School Board
Election**
Tuesday, May 21
7am - 8pm

SUPPORTING QUALITY SCHOOLS

Plattsburgh City School District voters will decide on a proposed \$45,275,270 budget for the 2019-20 academic year, on Tuesday, May 21, 2019. This budget proposal features an estimated tax levy of \$22,073,232, which is once again within the tax cap.

As with previous budget offerings, this proposal is believed to be both considerate of taxpayer sensitivities and responsible with regards to perpetuating our district's academic excellence. This budget will allow for stable programming, in that no reductions are contemplated. Also, to the extent that viable candidates are available, the restoration of a small number of positions which were previously reduced (such as a Business Education Teacher at Plattsburgh High School) will be restored.



As you well know, students in the Plattsburgh City School District

benefit from reasonable class sizes, impressive electives and enrichment programming, and a great breadth of co-curricular programs. Through both in-district and BOCES programming, students with special needs and/or specialized career interests receive focused instruction. As our faculty and staff continue to work hard to provide engaging instruction and to ensure that our graduates are college and career ready, we are grateful for voters' continued support, and delighted by the community's pride in our schools.

As in past years, voting will take place at three district locations: Bailey Avenue Elementary School, Momot Elementary School, and the Duken Administration Building. We are pleased to be able to continue offering extended poll hours, and voting will once again occur between 7a.m. and 8p.m..

Yours in shared Hornet pride,

Jay Lebrun, *Superintendent of Schools*



Facts & Figures

Change in Budget
1.35%

Change in Tax Levy
2.35%

Budget Hearing
Duken Building
Thursday
May 9 @ 7:30pm



For more information about our school district please visit:

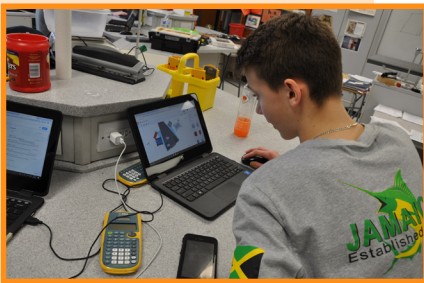


Visit our district Facebook page or website:
www.facebook.com/plattscsd
www.plattscsd.org



**PLATTSBURGH CITY
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Changes to the NYS STAR Program



In recent years, there have been some significant changes to New York State's School Tax Relief (STAR) program. Though STAR is a State-level program, it represents an important benefit for many residents of the Plattsburgh City School District, and we have allowed space in this newsletter to share information and resources with our constituents. If you have questions about the STAR program, you are encouraged to reach out to the Plattsburgh City Assessor at the Clinton County Real Property Office (518 565-4760, cityassessor@clintoncountygov.com). We hope that you will find this information useful.

For questions or more information please visit www.tax.ny.gov

Changes to STAR

If you currently receive your STAR benefit as a reduction on your school tax bill (the STAR exemption), you may receive a greater benefit if you switch to the STAR credit to receive a check instead.

Recent changes in the law beginning this year:

- The value of the STAR credit may increase by as much as 2% each year, but the value of the STAR exemption will not increase.
- The income limit for the Basic STAR exemption is now \$250,000.
- If your income is more than \$250,000, you must switch to the STAR credit.
- If your income is \$250,000 or less, you have the option to switch.

To switch to the STAR credit:

1. Notify your assessor to withdraw from the STAR exemption.
2. Register for the STAR credit.

Whether you receive the STAR exemption or the credit, there are two types of STAR benefits:

Basic STAR

- available for owner-occupied, primary residences;
- the income limit for the Basic STAR credit is \$500,000 (the income limit for the Basic STAR exemption is \$250,000);
- based on the first \$30,000 of the full value of a home
- Enhanced STAR
- provides an increased benefit for the primary residences of senior citizens (age 65 and older) with qualifying incomes (\$86,300 or less for the 2019-2020 school year)
- based on the first \$68,700 of the full value of a home for the 2019-2020 school year.

The STAR benefit applies only to school district taxes. It doesn't apply to county, town or city taxes, except in the cities of New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Yonkers, and Syracuse. In those five cities, the exemption is applied partly to city taxes and partly to school taxes.

Note: Senior citizens receiving STAR may also be eligible for the senior citizens exemption. See <https://www.tax.ny.gov/pit/property/exemption/seniorexempt.htm>



2019-2020 BUDGET OVERVIEW

| | 2018-19 Budget | 2019-20 Proposed | Change |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Budget | \$44,673,843 | \$45,275,270 | 1.35% |
| Revenues | \$43,215,839 | \$43,984,304 | 1.78% |
| Applied Reserves | \$1,458,004 | \$1,290,966 | -11.46% |
| Proposed Tax Levy | \$22,542,574 | \$23,073,232** | 2.35% |

**The proposed tax levy is below the Tax Levy Limit, and the proposed budget therefore requires only a 'simple majority' for approval.

Projected Annual Tax Impact of the 2019-2020 Budget

The tax impact estimates to the right do not assume any change in the total taxable assessed value for the City. This total valuation will not be known until June. Any increase in total taxable assessments will decrease the tax rate.

***Note: These estimates do not reflect any exemptions (ie. STAR).** Each taxpayer should further consider those exemptions for which they qualify.

| Property Assessment* | Current Tax Bill \$23.3442 per \$1,000 Assessed Value | Projected Tax Bill \$23.8938 per \$1,000 Assessed Value* | Annual Increase |
|----------------------|---|--|-----------------|
| \$50,000 | \$1,167 | \$1,195 | \$28 |
| \$100,000 | \$2,334 | \$2,389 | \$55 |
| \$146,000** | \$3,408 | \$3,488 | \$80 |
| \$200,000 | \$4,669 | \$4,779 | \$110 |
| \$250,000 | \$5,836 | \$5,973 | \$137 |
| \$300,000 | \$7,003 | \$7,168 | \$165 |
| \$350,000 | \$8,170 | \$8,363 | \$193 |

****Note:** The bold line represents the average home value in the City of Plattsburgh.



Superintendent Jay Lebrun
(518) 957-6002 jay@plattscsd.org
www.plattscsd.org

Board of Education
Leisa Boise, President
Tracy Rotz, Vice President
Amelia Goerlitz
Robert Hall, Jr.
Stephen Krieg
Ronald Marino
Clayton Morris
Roderick Sherman
Fred Wachtmeister, Jr.

Published by Plattsburgh City Schools
in cooperation with Champlain Valley Educational Services

Plattsburgh City Schools
49 Broad Street
Plattsburgh, NY 12901-3396

Non Profit Organization
US Postage
PAID
Plattsburgh NY
Permit #7

*****ECRWSEDDM*****

Postal Customer

WHEN & WHERE TO VOTE

Tuesday
May 21, 2019
7 am - 8 pm

Bailey Ave. School
50 Bailey Ave.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Duken Building
49 Broad St.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

Momot Elementary
60 Monty St.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901

To find your polling location, visit: www.plattscsd.org/election-map/

UPCOMING EVENTS



MAY 2019

| | |
|----|---|
| 9 | Spring Jazz Concert SMS/PHS Jazz Bands @ SMS – 7pm School Board Budget hearing – 7pm |
| 16 | PHS Spring Concert - Band, Chorus and Orchestra @ PHS – 7pm |
| 18 | PHS Prom @ Westside Ballroom – 7:30pm |
| 20 | SMS Pops Concert - SMS Band and Orchestra @ PHS – 7:30pm |
| 21 | School Board Budget Vote/Meeting |
| 29 | PHS National honor Society Induction Ceremony |
| 30 | Elementary Spring Concert - Bands and Orchestras @ PHS – 7pm |

JUNE 2019

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | SAT Testing |
| 3 | NYSSMA Evaluation Festival - PCSD Students |
| 4 | NYSSMA Evaluation Festival - PCSD Students |
| 5 | Evening of Vocal Music SMS Chorus/PHS Select Vocal Ensemble @ PHS |
| 8 | ACT Testing |
| 20 | School Board Meeting – 7pm |
| 29 | Graduation @ SUNY Field House – 2pm |